ONTARIO INSTITUTION

FOR THE

EDUCATION OF THE BLIND

Brantford, Ontario, Canada.

REPORTS

OF

PRINCIPAL DYMOND;

DR. MARQUIS, PHYSICIAN;

AND THE EXAMINERS,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1890.



BRANTFORD:

PRINTED AT EXPOSITOR JOB ROOM, COLBORNE STREET.







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REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL.

ROBERT CHRISTIE, ESQ.,
Inspector, etc.

SIR,—I have the honour, as Principal of the Institution for the Blind, to submit my report for the year ending September 30th, 1890.

STATISTICS OF ATTENDANCE.

The enrolment of pupils for the session under review showed a total of 151 represented by 87 males and 64 females, the highest number recorded for several years past. Of these 86 males and 63 females, 149 in all, remained upon the register at the close of the session. Of the 149, 115 had returned to the Institution at the date of this report, leaving 34 to be accounted for as follows:—

Graduates:

	Males.	Females	Totals.
In music, literary studies and industrial work	0	2	2
In literary studies	I	0	I
In literary studies and industrial work	0	I	I
In industrial work, and well advanced in music	0	I	I
In literary studies, and well advanced in music.	0	I	I
In piano-tuning	3	0	3
In willow work	4	0	4
Well advanced in music and proficient in indust'l work.	0	I	Ī
Well advanced in industrial work	0	I	I
Well advanced in willow work	2	0	2
Excluded, being found to possess a fair degree of sight	4	0	4
Excluded, being imbecile	I	0	I
Excluded, being incapable of industrial training	2	0	2
Excluded for bad conduct	I	0	I
Left for domestic reasons	I	I	2
Left, health being permanently impaired	0	2	2
Return temporarily deferred	2	3	5
	_	_	
	2 I	13	34

To the 115 old pupils returned have to be added ten new pupils, (six males and four females); also three former pupils (two males and one female) who, on application, have been allowed to re-enter the Institution. The number of pupils received up to the 30th of September was, consequently, 128, as follows:

	Males.	Females	Totals.
Old pupils of last session	65	50	115
New pupils admitted		4	10
Former pupils re-admitted		I	3
* *			
	73	5.5	128

The ages of the new pupils are as follows:-

17	Male.	Female.	Total.
Years.	T	0	I
Ten	,	0	1
Eleven	1	0	ī
Twelve	I	O	1
Thirteen	0	I	1
Fourteen	1	0	I
Fifteen	I	0	I
Seventeen	I	0	I
	0	1	1
Twenty-six	0		ī
Twenty-seven	0		
Thirty-two	0	I 4	1
•	_	_	
	6	4	10

On the 30th September, 1889, the register showed an attendance of 135, the difference between the late and the previous session being seven in favor of 1888-9. It is probable that the exceptionally high number reached in 1888-9 will not be fully attained during the present session. But, adding to the pupil population on the 30th September, 1890, three subsequent arrivals of new pupils, and the five old pupils whose return is temporarily deferred, with some three or four applicants or prospective applications, the total registration during the current session may be expected to exceed 140, even if it does not approximate even more closely to the figures of 1888-9.

GRADUATES AND RETIRING PUPILS.

The list of graduates, thirteen in number, invites some special notice. The first two, mentioned as graduating in all three departments, were pupils of many years' standing, possessing excellent abilities, and most conscientious in all their relations to their work and their teachers. Both have left us with ample materials for earning a livelihood if that be their aim, and certainly of adding much

to the pleasures and happiness of their respective homes.

The youth next alluded to, as having graduated in literary studies, has, at the late summer examinations, matriculated in arts at Trinity University. This is, I believe the first occasion on which a person educated by blind methods has in the history of Trinity, gained such an honourable measure of success. I anticipate that both in the arts course and in the examinations for a musical degree, pupils of this institution will, on some future occasions be found competing.

The three female pupils who come next in order have all laid the founda-

tion for lives of profitable employment and usefulness.

The three piano tuners and the four willow workers are, I believe, successfully following their respective vocations. These seven young men have been saved from a life-long dependence on others by the means which the institution has placed at their command.

Of the advanced pupils who left without attaining the full rank of graduates, the retirement of the two female pupils had, under circumstances of which I was cognizant, my full approval. They will both prove, I am sure valuable helpers to those with whom their lot is cast, and do credit to the instruction obtained at this Institution. The withdrawal of the two willow workers before the conclusion of their full term is not to be commended. Both were good

pupils and had made excellent progress. But, although able to turn out quite a variety of fairly marketable goods, and doubtless well satisfied with their own attainments, they were not, according to their Instructor's standard, fully prepared to enter into competition with seeing workmen in the same trade. Young men are sometimes, moreover, too ready to forget that an Institution which, without charging them one dollar, litts them from a position of dependence to one of moderate competence, has a claim on their regard and consideration, and that every pupil who leaves before he is fully qualified injures the reputation of the Institution and the whole of the class of workers to which he belongs.

THE STAFF.

There have been no changes in the staff of the literary or industrial departments during the past year. In the musical branch three vacancies have occurred by the retirement of Mr. H. F. Williams and Miss Callaghan, resident teachers, and of Mrs. Dr. Howson, who had for several years given instruction in vocal music. These positions have been respectfully filled by Mr. J. Edmund Jaques, who succeeds Mr. Williams, and has special charge of the pipe organ and senior male piano pupils; by Miss Charlotte Sheppard of the Toronto Conservatory of Music, who succeeds Miss Callaghan, and by Mr. E. E. Gubb, who, in place of Mrs. Howson, trains the vocal classes. Both the gentlemen above named bring with them well established reputations for professional efficiency, and I have no doubt the musical interests of the Institution are quite safe in the hands of its present officers, while very conscious of the ability and devotion to their work of those who have recently left us.

For the very marked progress which characterized the work of the past session the teaching staff of the Institution cannot receive too much credit.

THE LITERARY CLASSES.

While firmly adhering to the cautionary remarks in my last report with regard to the comparatively few instances in which literary attainments can be turned by a blind person to account as a means of livelihood, and urging as strongly as ever the importance of practical industrial training, I am equally prepared to maintain that a good literary education is most essential to the blind youth's real success in life. Nay, seeing how limited are his literary resources when he leaves the Institution, he is, even more than the sighted student, bound to lay up in his mind an ample store of intellectual treasures during the time he spends at school. Especially does this remark apply to those who look to music as a profession. The musician who aims at any high position must be able to associate with the cultured and educated on equal terms. He can only do this if he, too, is educated and cultured, has encouraged a literary taste, and in his conversation and general knowledge, can hold his own in social intercourse.

In order to assist those pupils whose circumstances may enable them to indulge a desire for the higher literary attainments, or whose tastes lie strongly in that direction, a class embracing some of the leading subjects of the Univer-

sity matriculation course will be maintained.

Our literature class this year will probably direct its attention to rather less diffuse and more analytical methods of instruction. It will take up Shakespeare as an author, with special reference to certain leading plays to which the attention of the pupils will be particularly directed. The influence of Shakespeare on the English language will also be a subject of study.

An arrangement has been made for each of the four reading classes to receive in turn a weekly lesson in elocution. Probably out of material thus developed a new advanced elocution class may ultimately be formed. The senior geography class will use Stanley's African explorations as its text-book for studying the interior of the "Dark Continent," aided by maps specially constructed for their use.

THE MUSIC CLASSES.

Probably in no year in the history of the Institution has more solid work been done by our musical department than during the one under notice. result was, among many causes traceable to two in particular, first, that the teaching talent was of a high order and aided by considerable experience in the special work of instructing the blind, and, secondly, that a number of pupils had, by long and diligent study attained a position whice made the teacher's duty comparatively easy and the studies delightful. Of our female pupils, too, four were occupied for a portion of every day in the duty of teaching juniors under the direction of a highly qualified member of the staff, who for the time gave them her undivided attention. The retirement at the close of the late session of all the four young women so occupied, has created a void in our arrangements which cannot all at once be filled up. Two of the pupil-teachers referred to have already been noticed as full graduates. Their stay in the Institution had been prolonged quite beyond ordinary limits, and it was time they should turn their unquestioned talents into independent channels A third pupil-teacher had also been in attendance for a full term of sessions, and was well able to contribute to the family income by her own exertions. A fourth pupil-teacher had come to us under rather peculiar circumstances and with a view to acquiring special instruction in two or three branches only. The upshot of these changes is that we have, on the female side no pupils who have yet reached either of the two higher grades in piano, and that the duty of instructing a large number of juniors now devolves upon the regular staff. Such vicissitudes are however inseparable from all sehools and educational institutions. In our case I doubt not their effect will soon eease to be felt and, perhaps to the outer world might even pass unnoticed if an allusion in this report to any important changes were not necessary.

On the male side, it so happens, that all the advanced piano and organ pupils have returned, and probably no new officer has ever enterred upon his duties with a class more anxious for improvement or better able to receive it than that which met our new music master, Mr. Jaques, on his assuming the vaeant position. The pipe organ class now consists of five males and one female pupil. Eight pupils, (males) are this year candidates for instruction in Professor Baker's violin class, three more than last session. The resignation of Mrs. Dr. Howson, on her removal to Toronto at Christmas, made a temporary arrangement for the voeal classes necessary. Miss Callaghan, who had every qualification for the work, undertook this duty for the remainder of the session, and satisfied all requirements. Mr Gubb's experience and methods are already beginning to show good fruit in the progress of the vocal classes of the

session

THE TUNING CLASS.

The strength of the tuning elass, the most popular branch of male industrial instruction, is fully maintained. The pianos appropriated to tuning practical instructions are proposed to the pianos appropriated to tuning practical instructions.

tice are in excellent order and sufficient in number and variety of construction. The reports from graduated pupils of this department are very gratifying. purchase of one new piano and the very thorough repairing of all those instruments that needed it have placed us at the present time in an exceptionally favoorable position as respects pianos for both music and tuning instruction and practice. But as the use of these instruments is continuous from early morning to night the strain upon them is very severe.

THE WILLOW SHOP.

I have much pleasure to testifying to the good work done in the willow shop during the past session. The Instructor's report requires no comment.

TRADE INSTRUCTOR'S REPORT.

MR. A. H. DYMOND,

Principal.

SIR,-I have the honor to submit my report upon the operations of the

workshop during the year ending September 30th, 1890.

The session's work has been marked by the usual features viz., industry and progress with good conduct. Four of the twenty-seven pupils working in the shop graduated at the close of the session with outfits; these four young men are now working at the rattan and willow work at their own homes, one at Cornwall the others at Ravenshoc, (York), Cayuga, and Alexandria respectively. The graduate residing at the last named place exhibited samples of his rattan and willow work at the local fall fair, and received a prize and the commendations of the public press for the quality of his work. One pleasant feature in connection with the work of our graduates is the fact that those graduates living in districts where a ready sale is found for their work are in some cases, giving employment to old fellow pupils not so favourably situated. A graduate whose home is a long distance north of Pembroke, (in the woods) and who found difficulty in disposing of his goods is now working for another of our pupils at Plantagenet and receives a fair compensation for his labour.

VACATION SUPPLIES.

The usual supply of willow and rattan were given to our workshop pupils, in order that they might do a little work during their vacation. This liberal practice has proved a great benefit to the workshop pupils; many of them have thus been enabled to earn sufficient to clothe themselves and have a little pocket money, and in this way have helped themselves, and relieved their friends from a considerable portion of the cost of their support. But I regret to say in several cases this liberal practice has been taken advantage of, several pupils receiving the loan of the tools and models having found a ready sale for their vacation work have concluded to start out for themselves before completing their training at the Institution; at the commencement of this session's work we have two vacant benches which should be occupied by two young men who would have graduated at the close of this session, but who have remained at home for the above reason. At the present time there are twenty-three pupils in the willow workshop; a few of this number are not very bright mentally and by no means strong in body. These will probably receive much benefit in bodily health and strength by the handling of the tools and models

and the exercise thus given, but beyond this little can be expected. The rest of the pupils are making fair progress.

SALES.

The following statement shows the amount of saleable work made by the pupils during the session, but it gives no idea of the large amount of labour performed by pupils in their first session's work to which no value can be attached:—

Sales by Trade Inspector Value of work not sold, on hand		\$557 90 175 00
Total		\$732 90
Pupils carned during their vacation	:	
D. M. D. C. J. F. B. A. J. W. T. N. N. B. S. T. A. S.		\$ 45 00 13 50 12 50 12 00 25 00 no report. no report. 25 00 15 00 21 00
E. S		21 00
Total		\$190 00

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

THOS. TRUSS, Trade Instructor.

THE LIBRARY.

Among the additions to the pupil's library during the past year have been Thackeray's "English Humorists," Thackeray's "Four Georges," Ruskin's "Seven Lamps of Architecture," Hawthorne's "Grandfather's Chair," Nicholl's "Fireside Science," Gage's "Elements of Physics," Anderson's Stories, Paul Bert's "First Steps in Science," "Among the Lawmakers." "About Old Story Tellers," "Chapters on Animals," "Caesar (Latin text)," "Goldsmith" "3000 Word Speller," Bacon's Essays, Miss B.'s "First Reader" and "Talks With Cæsar."

The publication in point print of text books, by the American Printing House for the Blind, will be a great assistance in the general work of instruction.

HEALTH.

In the medical officer's report are mentioned the most serious cases of illness that have occurred among the pupils during the past year. In that report neither the gravity nor numbers of the cases of La Grippe are overstated. Of our total resident population aggregating nearly 200 all told, more than 120 were

attacked and three of the senior officials were seriously, one of them dangerously ill.

It is cause, however, for congratulation and thankfulness, not only that no case terminated fatally but also that all made a good and thorough recovery. The relief given by the removal of two cases of typhoid, by which newly returned pupils were affected, to our excellent local hospital was very great, while nothing can have exceeded the care and kindness with which the invalids were treated at that establishment. Its advantages, however, to us, and to the public generally, would be greatly enhanced if, to the present hospital were added accommodation for the treatment of scarlet fever and diphtheria patients, whose presence in even our own well situated sick ward is always a source of risk and anxiety. It is true, that by taking extreme precautions, the above named unwelcome visitants have been effectually held in check when they have made their appearance of late years, but the insidious means by which they too often succeed in baffling every effort to retain them, preclude over confidence so long as they are actually among us.

In speaking of the health of the Institution the absence or otherwise of actual sickness is what is usually present to the mind. But there is a physicial condition, short of active disease, that may, and often does affect most seriously the work, usefulness and happiness of life, and which only a healthful and invigorating regimen can effectually cope with. The blind as a rule are not a healthy class of persons. In a large percentage of cases blindness is the direct result of inherited constitutional causes, attended often with delicacy of the internal functions and general physical weakness. Again, when blindness has been caused in early life by accident or sickness, the personal restraint it imposes and the absence of robust exercise which it entails, arrest vigorous physical development and impair bodily strength. Even to those who may have enjoyed sight for several years blindness fetters the movements, limits terribly the enjoyment of pleasurable and health-giving sports and occupations and so acts prejudicially on the system. Blindness, moreover, in most cases is responsible for a more or less stooping gait, with a contracted chest, slow movements, and the absence of that briskness and activity of limb and muscle characteristic of the majority of our sighted youth. The conviction has forced itself on the mind of the educators of the blind the fact that they may by turning their attention in the first place to intellectual improvement, have been beginning at the wrong end and that the establishment, as far as possible, of healthy physicial conditions should be the primary object to be attained. Hence the strongly worded resolution passed at the late convention, hence the erection of a gymnasium in connection with every well ordered institution, hence the conclusion of everyone whose experience is worth anything that systematic physical training should take precedence of all other efforts for the amelioration of the condition of the blind

DISCIPLINE.

The maintenance of a fair degree of discipline during the past year has been a comparatively easy task as regards most of the pupils. The preservation of order in such an institution demands of course the firm exercise of authority and a vigilant suppression of incipient tendencies to evil or misconduct in any form. As respects minor offences our system of marks works well. The rule that any pupil receiving twenty or more bad marks or "demerits" is type facto distinct any department of study, was enforced for the first time at the close of the late session. Some three or four young folks came

within the scope of its action and paid the penalty of a too careless or reckless attitude, let us trust not only to their own permanent benefit but also that of others. An incident connected with this part of my report occurred towards the close of the session which, having been reported in the newspapers, may demand some notice here. A citizen, and I regret to add alderman, of Brantford and formerly a licensed saloon keeper, but now ostensibly a dealer in small wares, had been in the habit, according to his own admission, of allowing our pupils to resort to a room on his premises adjoining his store in order that they might there enjoy the privilege of smoking tobacco which is, as this man knew, strictly prohibited by the rules of the Institution and may, if persisted in, lead to

expulsion.

Four of the senior pupils who had been granted leave to visit the city having returned, one in a state of advanced intoxication and the others clearly under the influence of liquor, had been seen to emerge from the place abovenamed and had attracted the attention of several persons by their disorderly conduct. As the young men, who were separated immediately on their return to the Institution, all gave similar statements, to the effect that they had been served with liquor by the person above-referred to, and that they had resorted to the store in question to obtain it, I felt it my duty to place the matter at once in the hands of the Chief of Police, who laid an information against the offender, which resulted in a conviction and fine of fifty dollars, and only a slight technical defect saved the unlicensed vendor from municipal disqualification. In this connection it may be right for me to explain that under strict rules as to time and limits our pupils are allowed to resort to the city as a privilege forfeitable if abused. It is necessary that they should be trained in independent habits, and also enjoy all the exercise possible. The confinement to even our extensive grounds and premises must be very irksome to young men and growing youths, especially when they have once known the blessings of sight. large proportion of our pupils, I have reason to believe, are conscientious, honorable, and self-respecting. It is in my opinion better to run some risk of a few forgetting what is due to themselves and the Institution, rather than to do an injustice and injury to those who are disposed to obey the rules, and while any city may be disgraced by an unworthy citizen, I have every reason to feel grateful to the people of Brantford generally, for the consideration shown at all times to my wishes and representations, and their kindness to those under my charge. Of the four young men who so seriously misbehaved themselves in the instance above mentioned, it was deemed necessary to exclude one, who had previously given trouble from further attendance, the others were re-admitted on probation.

THE BI-ENNIAL CONVENTION.

The Be-ennial Convention of educators and instructors of the blind was held in July last, at Jacksonville, Illinois, in the very fine institution at that place. The unusual heat of the weather just at that period somewhat detracted from the enjoyment of the trip and deterred a few from attending. The entertainment, however, afforded by Superintendent and Mrs. Hall, who had only recently been appointed, was most generous and hospitable, the accommodation for the guests more than ample, while State officials and residents of Jackson-ville did everything that courtesy could suggest to add to the visitors' pleasure. It is needless to say that on these occasions, as my able predecessor and myself can both testify, the representatives of the Ontario Institution always receive a most fraternal welcome from their American co-laborers in the work of instruc-

tion of the Blind and with the sanction of the department I had the pleasure of extending to the association a cordial invitation to hold the next meeting (1892)

at Brantford, which proposal was unanimously accepted.

The discussions of the convention all took a very practical turn. In connection with one on amusements and physical development of the blind, a strongly worded resolution insisting on the necessity of systematic physical training such as a gymnasium alone can afford and already referred to under another head, was adopted.

Dancing as a recreation and as affording opportunities for social intercourse has been introduced into one or two institutions and found its advocates, but the weight of opinion in the convention was clearly against allowing any other

association between male and female pupils than in the class-rooms.

THE WORKROOM AND KNITTING CLASSES.

The classes in female industrial work were well kept up during the past session and are again of full strength and busily occupied. The progress of some pupils last year in these branches was particularly noteworthy.

THE KINDERGARTEN.

The Kindergarten class has now become an all but universal institution in schools for the blind on this continent. In our own case it has been an unqualified success, and the progress made, even by very young children, under this method of instruction, has been most extraordinary. Several young Kindergarteners have already been promoted to the regular classes, and show most plainly, in competition with others, how admirable has been their earlier Kindergarten training.

IMPROVEMENTS.

While we have, from an unfailing spring, enjoyed at all times a most abundant supply of the purest water for domestic use, and are well furnished with the means of combatting internally an incipient fire, our external fire apppliances have never been equal to grave emergencies. The City of Brantford, now possesses, however, an admirable system of water works, and has also a well drilled and most efficient salaried fire brigade. By an arrangement with the city authorities, we shall, in the near future, be protected by a six inch main with four hydrants, each furnishing, if required, two streams of water, and completely commanding the whole of the buildings. The services of the city brigade will also be at our disposal on call. Judging by personal observation in other cases, I should expect to see the force, whose headquarters is over a mile distant, on the ground and ready for action within ten minutes after giving the fire alarm signal. While sincerely hoping their services may never be called into requisition, it is most reassuring to know that such facilities will for a comparatively small outlay be so immediately at command.

The next local improvement in progress in Brantford is a complete system of sewerage, and I trust it may be found practicable for us to solve, once for all the long standing difficulty in this respect, by connecting our drains with the

city sewers.

THE GYNASIUM.

In connection with the question of health, I have alluded to the subject of systematic physicial training, and have also noticed the attitude of the late convention in relation to the same subject. Knowing what I do of the necessity

for a gymnasium, and what every person competent by actual experience thinks about it, I may be excused for once more repeating what appeared in my last report as urgent reasons for an appropriation for this object, and which were as follows:-

That blind youths have no means of cultivating physical development

effectually unless special apparatus is provided for them.

2. That by reasons of delicacy of constitution the majority of blind youths need, even more than the seeing, such means of physical training and development. 3. That no institution for the blind is or can be complete without a well

constructed and properly furnished gymnasium. 4. That it is now a recognized fact that physical training is a primary

necessity in the education of the blind.

That the mental and industrial education of the blind is at every point

thwarted and obstructed by the want of systematic physical training

6. That a gymnasium for the blind must be (1) a substantial well warmed building (2) As nearly as possible a part of the main buildings, accessible without exposure to weather or changes of temperature by all the classes, and by both male and female pupils as part of the daily routine of school exercises. (3) Large enough to be used for general exercise when the weather confines the male pupils within doors. When these simple statements of facts are recognized and acted upon the first and last educational want of the Ontario Institution for the Blind will have been supplied.

THE GROUNDS.

Those who recollect the appearance of this estate at the time it first came into possession of the government, and have not seen it of late years, will be almost incredulous if told that, in the planted portions of the grounds vigorous tree pruning and even in some cases thinning out to prevent injury to choice trees from overcrowding has become a necessity. The growth of trees for the past year or two has been very rapid with the results mentioned The appearance of the grounds will be improved by the work just accomplished. there are yet places in which a few ornamental trees may be planted to advantage, I am not disposed to recommend any large expenditure in the near future for this purpose. Cultivation and careful attention to the existing planted stock will be what is most necessary for some time to come. The new land in the rear of the institution is fairly well covered with deciduous trees and evergreens, and will ultimately, I trust, become a favorite resort of the citizens who now use the grounds freely for walking exercises, while not a few vehicles bring visitors and others to enjoy the fine view of city, woods and river, obtainable from our elevated position.

THE FARM.

The year has on the whole been a favorable one for our limited farming and gardening operations. With the exception of potatoes, which have fallen short in the yield, all the crops have been heavy.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

My acknowledgments are again due for the many evidences of kindness and good will extended to the institution by our city friends

I have the honor to be,

Sir, Your obedient servant,

A. H. DYMOND,

Principal.

EXAMINERS' REPORT.

To Robert Christie, Esq.,

Inspector of Public Institutions, etc.

SIR, -In obedience to your instructions we examined the literary classes in the Ontario Institution for the Blind, situated at Brantford, and have the honor

to submit herewith the results:

There is nothing of a novel or a special nature to report, except the fact that a successful attempt has been made to establish classes in what may be ealled "Higher Education." These classes are doing very good work, as may be seen by reference to the result of the examination further on in this report. The work of the institution so far as we had opportunities of seeing it, or were connected therewith, seemed to be conducted with skill and the requisite energy, and the order in the classes and corridors was all that eould be desired. The grounds have grown very attractive, and the pupils rambling through them or seated on forms in the shade of the trees, show a hearty enjoyment of their privileges. It is surely a priceless boon to the blind children of this province, and their parents, to have provided for them free, such an institution and such advantages.

As heretofore we group the classes under the names of the several teachers

in charge.

1. Mr. Wickens' Classes.

Class B. (a) Arithmetic. 19 pupils in this class. Limit. compound rules and fractions. A very satisfactory knowledge of the subject was evinced. The theory had evidently been taught with some care, and they were able to solve practical problems with considerable readiness.

(b) Reading. Class A. 15 members. Nearly all the pupils read fluently and with goods emphasis and expression; they also understand what they read.

(c) English Grammar. Class B. This class was examined in the fundamental principles of grammar, and answered very well; has acquired a fair knowledge of parsing and analysis. The examination consisted of questions intended to test knowledge of the construction of sentences and ability to correct common errors in English. Did well as a class.

(d) Writing. Class A. As a test of penmanship the class was asked to write in proper form a bill of goods, the items of which were given them; to write a letter to a wholesale house, ordering a quantity of carpet of a certain description, and to draw a negotiable note. The form of each was, on the whole, good, and the note (by most) eorrectly drawn. The writing is quite up to that of former years.

(e) Physiology and Hygiene. 10 boys in this class. Examined on the laws of health and the functions of the different organs of the body. The answering was generally very good. The various bones of the skeleton when handed to the pupils were distinguished and accurately described. The average attain-

ments of the class ereditable to the teacher.

(f) Geography. Class A. The British Empire in all its parts is the limit assigned this class. They were required to name, locate and describe each dependency, until all had been disposed of. They were rather minutely examined regarding the climate, productions, races, form of government, and commerce, of each colony, and in nearly every case gave correct answers. This class has always taken a very high stand. The present class is perhaps a little behind that of last year, but made an average of 74 per cent.

II. Miss Gillin's Classes.

(a) Class B. Geography. 15 pupils. Examined minutely on the maps of South America and the United States; the answering was prompt and accurate.

(b) Class D. Writing, 12 pupils. Write with considerable facility; writ-

ing legible; letters, as a rule, well formed.

(c) English History: limits from William III to Victoria. 15 pupils. Exhibited a pretty intimate acquaintance with the important historical facts and incidents of the period, the constitutional changes, and the reforms effected in the interval; but the class, though good, is not quite up to that of former

vears.

- (d) Literature. A class of 18. This has always been a favorite subject, and the interest in it has not abated. The examination commenced with a review of the history of French literature from a period antecedent to the times of the Trouveres and Troubadores and extended to the present. Saintsbury's is the book used. A pretty intimate acquaintance was manifested with the authors of the different periods. Of course anything like a critical knowledge is not to be expected from those unacquainted with the French tongue. Of Italian literature also, they had learned something of the achievements of Dante, l'etrarch, Bocaecio, Ariosto, Tasso, Bernardo de Vinci, Michel Angelo and Raphael. In English literature they were more thoroughly examined, from Beda to Tennyson. Special attention was paid to Shakespeare, especially to the play of Richard III. Nearly all the striking passages have been memorized, not only in this drama, but in Hamlet, and in the Merchant of Venice. And just herein consists the value of the subject to the blind.
- (e) Ancient History. A class of 4. This limits from the second Punic War to Augustus in Roman, and the Persian and the Peloponnesian wars in Greek history. This class did remarkably well, and had a very complete knowledge of the important events of those times.
- (f) Class C. Arithmetic. The class is smaller than that of last year, but about equal to it in attainments. The pupils were assigned twelve problems to test their knowledge of the fundamental rules, and the tables of weights and measures. All the questions were of a practical character and required thought. The senior division of the class answered well. The average of the junior division was lowered by the comparative failure of a couple who are not well up. No question was missed by all. The enthusiasm of the class is very noticeable.

(g) Class D. Grammar. The subject of grammar is commenced in this class. The pupils were examined very thoroughly as to their knowledge of the elements of grammar, and particularly about the sentence and its parts. Three did not do very well, but these are weak mentally; the others showed an intel-

ligent acquaintance with the subject, and have done a good year s work.

(h) Miss Gillin has a class of 4 in Algebra. One had gone to surds and the others to multiplication. A fair set of questions, covering the work gone over, was given to each. The questions were dictated and the pupils wrote them in point print and then proceeded to solve them. The senior pupil solved all correctly; one of the juniors obtained a little over 50 per cent.; the others did not do very well.

(i) The same class in Euclid. One had studied the first three books, one the first book, and the other two had gone over the first twenty propositions of the first book. Two papers were given in same manner as that pursued in Algebra. As a test of their knowledge of the first book of Euclid they were required to demonstrate the 16th proposition and all the propositions on which

it depends. To the senior pupil their were given in addition, questions to test his knowledge of the second and third books. The demonstrations and answers were done in point print. At the close of the examination a pupil (not in the elass) was asked to read the work of each pupil to the examiner. The senior boy obtained 92 per cent., and the female pupil 78 per cent. of the marks. The other two were much lower.

III. Mr. Alexander's Classes.

(a) Class D. Arithmetic. A class of 22, in two sections; doing elementary work. Attainments unequal; most, however, can solve correctly easy problems

in the simple rules.

(b) Grammar and Philology. 11 in the class. Their knowledge of analysis and parsing was thoroughly tested. Several complex sentences were submitted to them which were disposed of very satisfactorily. In Philology Earle's is the book used, and of several of the chapters they evinced a fair knowledge,

(c) Class C. Reading. 17 pupils in two sections. The reading of three

very good; of seven, good; the rest, fair.

(d) Class B. Writing. Generally good.

(e) Higher Education. Latin. There are five doing the junior matriculation work of Toronto University. They are fairly well up in the Latin grammar, but need more drill on the irregular verbs. "Possum" floored them all. They construed a chapter of the "Bellum Britannicum" admirably—much better than the average class in an ordinary High School. One of them is also doing

something in French and German.

(f) Class C. Geography. The work assigned this class is the Dominion of Canada. The pupils were found to have a very good knowledge of the locations of all the important cities and towns, and of the industries carried on in each. They were required to find on the raised maps the chief islands, rivers, mountains, etc., and to describe them. Their knowledge of geography in Ontario is very good. Their teacher has made the subject both practical and interesting, and the examination showed that the class had acquired a large amount of useful information in a very methodical way. A raised map of the Maritime Provinces is much needed.

(g) Canadian History. The main facts of the history of Canada from Cartier to Confederation were taken in order, and their knowledge of each tested. Fve pupils obtained over 90 per cent of the marks assigned. Four of these were girls. The girls made an average of 74 per cent, while the boys

obtained but 40 per cent.

IV. Miss Walsh's Classes.

(a) Class C. Grammar. 18 pupils. Know definitions; can run verbs through the indicative mood; analyse and parse simple and compound sentences. Five got 90 per cent. of the marks assigned.

(b) Class D. Geography. 26 pupils. 10 do excellent work. Can find and name the rivers and railways in Ontario; pick out from the dissected map and describe the counties, and locate the principal cities, towns and islands of the

province. (c) Object Lesson. 19 in this class-mostly small pupils. They were handed samples of tea, coffee, sugar, pepper mustard, cloves, cinnamon, ginger, sago, rice, etc., and asked to describe them, tell where they came from, and how

they were prepared. This they did, for the most part, with much minuteness and accuracy. Of the sear, the owl, the wildcat, the woodchuck, the turtle, etc., they evinced a competent knowledge. They take great delight in handling

those and describing their habits, habitat, etc.

(d) Class A. Arthmetic. There is no doubt that this class is a perfect product of most perfect and laborious teaching The questions were much the same as those assigned the candidates for 3rd Class Certificates, and comprised mensuration of surfaces and solids, practical business problems including discount, percentage and interest, and micellaneous problems requiring careful analysis. How the successive steps are taken and the various results held in mind is surprising; but careful teaching and honest study have made first-rate arithmeticians of the majority of those pupils.

(e) Class B. Reading. The desire to read well is evident at once. The examiner is impressed with the determination of the pupils to do justice to the piece, They have been taught correct habits of reading, and read with a good deal of animation. The articulation is very distinct. They can distinguish accurately and quickly isolated words. More proficient in spelling than the

class of last year.

(f) Elocution Class. 5 in number. Much care must have been taken in training this class, for their manner of reciting and their ability to regulate and control their voices, and to give expression to passages requiring taste and discrimination, is very creditable. They were first examined upon the theory of elocution and reading, and afterwards were required to recite passages, illustrating the various emotions, etc. The class did well in both parts of the examination.

Miss Johnson's Classes ..

(a) Class E. Reading. 14 pupils, of various degrees of proficiency. One really good reader in the class-which is composed of youngsters. As to

fluency, expression, etc., they do pretty well.

(b) Kindergarten Class. 17 pupils. This class consists of a number of very young children, for whom the kindergarten system seems admirably adapted. Their knowledge of form obtained through its teaching is remarkably correct. They were required to do work in folding, weaving and sewing, and executed each kind of work with speed and accuracy. They were examined in the use of some of the gifts and were found to have mastered the work they had been taught. Their singing is good, and the accompanying movements are made as well as such things are done by seeing children in the primary classes. Here the laborous work of teaching the blind is evident. Seeing children imitate each other and their teacher. With the blind each child has to be treated individually. They were examined in numbers and reading, in both of which advancement has been made. A young lady assistant is needed here, as the Directress has too many under her care to do them all justice. The assistant could attend to the innumerable wants of the little, and thus afford Miss Johnson more time for teaching.

The gymnastics are well taught by Mr. Conolly, the teacher in charge of that department.

Respectfully submitted.

M. J. KELLY, WM. WILKINSON,

MUSICAL DEPARTMENT.

ROBERT CHRISTIE, ESQ.,

SIR,-I beg to submit my report of the musical examination held by me in the Brantford Blind Institute, on Thursday and Friday, May 22nd and 23rd.

The results in marks of my examination having been handed to the Pri-u cipal, there remains little to do but to comment generally on the work being done. Almost all the pupils that came under my notice were familiar to me from previous acquaintance, and I may say that in every case good progress had been made. The senior pupils show an amount of intellgent appreciation and thorough grasp of their subject that speaks volumes for their training. It has always struck me that the teachers of the blind must have some special qualification for their work, and keen sympathy with their pupils, and these seem to be special features of the Brantford staff.

I would recommend that the teaching library of the Institute be enlarged by the selection of a good deal of new music suitable for teaching purposes. teach the same music so often, to so many different pupils, is wearisome to the pupils, and excessively so to the teachers. I should like particularly to see carried out Mr. Williams' idea to have several courses or selections of organ music of graduated difficulty, so as to avoid the continuel repetition, and to increase the range of knowledge of organ music which each pupil can obtain from hearing

the others play.

While being extremely gratified with the advance of the piano pupils, I was more struck with improvement of those who are giving attention to the pipe organ. Their playing is much steadier, and in some cases, distinctly artistic.

Since Mrs. Howson's resignation the vocal class has been under Miss Callaghan's care; and considering the little time she has had them, the work done was excellent. The advanced class, consisting solely of young ladies, did some delightful part singing, as well as unison singing of some songs, all sung with excellent taste, good tone and time. The entire vocal class sang the bridal chorus from Gaul's "Ruth," with accompaniment of organ and two pianos, and the effect was extremely fine. They also sang a few other part songs with excellent effect.

The violin class, under the guidance of Mr. Baker, of Galt, seemed to me rather smaller than before; but all are advancing well, one especially showing

great taste and an excellent tone.

The counterpoint and harmony students did some very good exercises for

me, some of them being not only good exercises but good music as well.

Several students who are preparing themselves to earn a living by tuning, are doing very well. Of the excellence of their work I made practical test last year by having one of their ex-pupils tune some pianos in my house, and his work I found highly satisfactorily.

While listening to the hearty singing at the morning devotional exercises, I was struck by some young men's voices that I thought ought to be in the vocal class. It is curious that the male pupils cannot be got to take as much interest in that class as the girls. There are some voices that would develop wonderfully with the careful training they would get in the class.

I examined the pianos throughout the Institution and found them in fair condition considering it was just at the end of the year's work. A careful going

over will put them in good shape for another season.

Let me, before closing, take this opportunity of thanking the Principal and

the entire staff for their kindness to me during my brief visit.

Yours faithfully, I. E. P. ALDOUS, B. A.

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

ROBERT CHRISTIE, ESQ.,

Inspector of Charities, etc.

SIR,-At your request I send you the Physician's Report of the Institution for the education of the Blind, at Brantford, for the year ending September 30, 1890. It has been a year with much more than the usual amount of sickness. owing largely to the spread of the epidemic la grippe. I am pleased, however. to inform you that we have had no deaths to record during the year. About the 4th of November, 1889, a lad aged eleven years was taken ill with typhoid fever, the germs of which he brought with him from his home, where, we subsequently ascertained, several members of his family were down with typhoid fever a short time before his return to the Institution. When satisfied that his fever was typhoid, he was at once removed, by order of the Principal, to the John H. Stratford Hospital, where he made a good recovery. Every precaution having been taken at the Insitution by way of disinfection, etc., we had no more cases of typhoid. About the 11th of November, 1889, two pupils on the boys' side, both aged about ten years, were almost simultaneously taken ill with sore throats. They were at once isolated, and on the second day a rash appeared on them both, showing plainly the disease to be scarlet fever. How this disease came into the Institution I am not prepared to say. There were quite a number of cases in the city at the same time, and from that source probably the disease was introduced in some way. Very fortunately, however, we prevented the disease from spreading. A special nurse was procured by the Principal, and complete isolation and thorough disinfection maintained till all the danger was passed. Both boys made a good recovery. On the 8th day of January, 1800, the epidemic la grippe made its appearance among the pupils of the Institution and spread rapidly, often ten to fifteen being ill at the same time with it, till over one hundred were sickened by it. Our plan of treatment proved very successful. Those who were ill enough to go to bed were placed in warm, well ventilated rooms; quinine in tonic doses given to them with nitrate of potash enough to keep the secreting organs active. This, with careful feeding with spoon food was all that was necessary in the large majority of cases. having lung complications or severe headaches, required special treatment. Care was taken not to allow patients recovering from la grippe to expose themselves to draughts or to go to work too soon. The very complete recovery made by all the pupils attacked by this epidemic is largely due to the careful watchfulnhss of the officers in charge. My observations during the past year but confirm what I said in my last report to you, that is that the rules and discipline of this Institution tend to decidedly improve the health and vigor of the pupils in attendance.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

D. MARQUIS.

ONTARIO INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

STATISTICS FOR YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1890 I.—Attendance.

	-			Males.	Females.	Total
ttendance	for portion of year	anding 20t	h Sept., 1872			<u>-</u>
4.4	for year ending 30t	b September	er, 1873	20	14	34
6.6	ii good	" Septembe	1074	44	24	68
4.6	6.6	66	1874	66	46	112
66	6 6	6.6	1875	89	50	139
4.6	4.4	6.6	1876	84	64	148
44	64	66	1877	76	72	148
66	6 6	6.6	1878	91	84	175
6.6	66	66	1879	100	100	200
4.6	44	64	1880	105	98	203
6.6	46	6.6	1881	103	98	201
6.6	**	46	1882	94	73	167
6.6	6.6	66	1883	88	72	160
6.6		"	1884	71	69	140
6.6	66	"	1885	86	74	160
6.6	66	66	1886	93	71	164
44	"		1887	93	62	155
66			1888	94	62	156
		"	1889	99	68	167
46	66	6.6	1890	95	69	164

II.-Age of Pupils.

	No.		No.
Six years Seven years Eight " Nine " Ten " Eleven " Twelve " Thirteen " Fourteen years Fifteen " Seventeen "	1 1 4 6 4 7 5 10 17 10 10 12	Eighteen years Nineteen "Twenty "Twenty-one" Twenty-two" Twenty-three years. Twenty-four "Twenty-five "Over twenty-five years. Total	8 8 6 5 8 7 7 7 5 23

- TIT 3	Vationali	ity of Parents.	
111.—1	National	or Tarents.	
	No.		No.
American Canadian English Irish French German	3 60 44 25 9 3	Norwegian . Scoteh	1 18 1 164
IV.—De	enominat	ion of Parents.	
	No.		No.
Baptist. Congregational Children of Peace Episcopalian Lutheran	11 4 1 46 2	Methodist. Presbyterian Roman Catholi:	45 30 25 164
V.—Oc	eupation	of Parents.	
	-	,	-
_ 	No.		No.
Actor. Agents Baker Book-keepers Blacksmiths Blutchers Carpet-cleaner Carriage-builder Clerk Conductor Contractor Clergyman Cabinet-makers Drover Fariners Fariners Gardeners Gardeners Haross-makers Hotel-keeper	4 1 7 1 1 1 1 4 4 45 3 1 2	Marbel-worker Merchants Miller Notary Public Painters Physician Sailor Sheriff Soldier Stone-mas n Stone-mas n Sulveyors Tailor Tanner Teacher Tradesman Veterinary surgeon Unknown	1 10 1 1 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 3 3 3 1 1 1 1 3 7
Laborers Manufacturer	$\frac{34}{2}$	Total	164

VI.—Cities and Counties from which pupils were received during the official year ending 80th September, 1890.

COUNTY OR CITY.	Male.	Female.	Total.	COUNTY OR CITY.	Male.	Female.	Total.
District of Algoma City of Belleville. County of Brant. City of Brantford County of Bruce. "Charleton Dufferin. Dundas. "Durham. "Elgin. "Essex. "Frontenae. "Grenville" Grey. City of Guelph. County of Haldimand "Halton. City of Hamilton. County of Hassings. "Huron. City of Kingston. County of Kent. "Lambton. "Leds. "Lanark. "Lennox "Lincoln. City of London.	2 3 1 1 1 1 3 1 3 2 3 3 	1 1 2 2 3 3 1 1 2 5 1 2 1 2 1 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 1 1 4 5 4 1 2 1 1 3 8 8 1 5 1 5 1 5 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	" Stratford	3 17 2 1 1 2 6	3 1 2 1 3 3 1 2 1 1 1 2 1 6	1 1 1 3 1 1 5 5 3 2 2 1 1 1 1 2 2 1 4 4 1 1 1 1 2 1 1 4 4 1 1 1 1

VII.—Cities and Counties from which pupils were received from the opening of the Institute till 30th September, 1890.

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COUNTY OR CITY.	Male.	Female.	Total.	County or City.	Male.	Female.	Total.
City of Belleville County of Brant. City of Brantford County of Bruce. "Carleton. Dufferin Dundas. "Durham "Elgin. "Essex. "Frontenac. "Glengarry. "Grenville "Grey. City of Guelph. County of Haldimand "Halton. City of Hamilton. County of Hamilton. County of Kent. "Lambton. "Leeds. "Lanark "Lennox. "Lincoln City of London. District of Nipissing. County of Middlesex	5 8 5 2 1 2 2 3 7 7 5 5 2 6 2 4 5 9 5 7 5 5 6 0 9 1 3 3 7 1	1 5 6 9 1 1 2 3 3 11 2 1 10 2 4 1 8 3 9 4 4 4 3 1 2 1 3 8 8 7	4 10 14 14 14 3 2 4 5 6 18 7 7 5 3 16 4 8 16 9 10 13 10 13 10 14 14 14 18 18 19 19 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	District of Muskoka County of Norfolk "Northum berland "Ontario. City of Ottawa County of Oxford "Peel. "Perth "Perth "Poterboro" "Prince Edward. "Renfrew "Russell. City of St. Catharines "St. Thomas "St. Thomas "St. Thomas "Stratford. County of Simcoe. "Stormont. City of Toronto. County of Victoria. "Waterloo "Welland "Wellington. "Wentworth "York Proviuce of Quebec. North-west Territory. Total	3 7 2 6 6 10 3 1 1 2 10 3 3 1 7 7 1 2 2 3 3 2 2 4 4 4 2 2 9 5 5 5 4 9 9 7 7 15 2 2 2 8 7	77 77 77 77 11 38 22 22 51 11 16 22 3 27 77 11 218	3 14 9 13 11 16 2 2 10 12 5 1 12 2 2 2 4 4 2 13 4 4 4 4 5 7 7 8 8 6 6 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16

VII.—Cities and Counties from which pupils were received who were in residence on 30th September, 1890.

COUNTY OR CITY.	Male.	Female.	Total.	COUNTY OR CITY,	Male.	Female.	Total.
District of Algoma. City of Belleville. County of Brant. City of Brantford. County of Bruce. "Carleton. "Dufferin. "Dundas. "Durham. "Elgin. "Essex. "Frontenac. "Glengarry. "Grenville. "Grey. City of Guelph. County of Haldimand. "Halton. City of Hamilton. County of Hastings. "Huron. City of Kingston. County of Kent. "Lambton. "Leeds. "Lanark. "Lenox. "Lipogle.	1 1 2 1 1 1 2 1 1 4 2 2 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 1 2 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 3 1 1 1 3 1 1 1 3 1 1 1 3 1 1 1 1 3 1	1 1 3 4 4 2 2 1 1 1 2 6 6 1 1 1 1 4 4 1 1 3 2 2 6 1 5 3 3 1 9 9 2 2 2 1 1	County of Middlesex. District of Muskoka "Nipissing. County of Norfolk. "Northumberland. "Ontario City of Ottawa. County of Oxford. "Peel. "Peterboro" "Peterboro" "Prince Edward. "Prescott. "Renfrew. "Russell. City of St. Catharines. "St. Thomas, "St. Thomas, "Stratford. County of Simcoe. "Stormont. City of Toronto. County of Victoria. "Waterloo. "Waterloo. "Welland. "Wellington. "Wellington. "Wentworts. "York.	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	3 1 1 3	1 2 3 2 1 1 2 2
City of London			1	. Total	73	55	128

MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURE.

For the year ending 30th September, 1890, compared with proceeding year.

	YEARENDI	мя 30тн S 1890.	EPTEMBER,	YEAR ENDING 30th SEPTEMBER, 1890.			
Service.	Totel expendi-	Weekly cost per pupil.	Yearly cost per pupil.	Total expendi.	Weekly cost per pupil.	Yearly cost per pupil.	
	\$ c.	c. m.	8. c.	\$. c.	c. m.	\$. c.	
Medicine and medical comforts. Butchers' meat, fish, etc. Flour, bread and biscuits. Butter and lard. Groccries. Fruit and vegetables. Bedding, clothing and shoes. Fruel. Gas, oil, etc. Laundry, soap and cleaning. Furniture and furnishings. Farm, garden, feed and fodder. Repairs and alterations. Printing, postages, stationery, etc. Books, educational apparatus and appliances. Micellaneous. Salaries and wages.	640 65 2,802 51 1,054 30 349 10 435 62 962 61 762 09 754 83	2 4 43.1 14.8 16.1 28.1 3.6 8.4 38.5 14.4 7 5.9 13.2 10.4 9.6 10.0 230.6 4,76.0	1 29 22 46 7 76 8 39 14 64 1 90 02 7 35 2 49 3 11 6 87 5 44 5 03 4 22 10 97 1 995	251 01 3,124 96 1,075 23 1,236 77 2,044 75 352 59 828 25 3 017 39 1,098 04 281 43 497 49 784 84 673 64 604 96 980 35 1,094 85 16,767 80 34,714 35	3.4 41.7 14.3 16.5 27.4 4.6 11.0 40.2 14.6 3.7 6.6 10.4 9.0 8.1 13.1 14.6 2,24.9	1 74 21 70 7 47 8 8 599 14 20 2 45 5 76 20 95 7 63 1 95 3 45 5 4 68 4 20 6 81 7 60 116 44 241 07	

Average No. of pupils in 1889-140. | Average No. of pupils in 1890.-144.



